

ALASKA FARM REPORTER

Alaska Division of Agriculture
Alaska Cooperative Extension
Ag & Forestry Experiment Station



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

USDA, NASS, Alaska Field Office
P.O. Box 799
Palmer, AK 99645
907-745-4272
907-746-4654 (Fax)

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MILK PRODUCTION

ALASKA: Milk production for the previous 3 month's totaled 2.7 million pounds. Production in October was 1.1 million pounds, while production in November and December was 0.8 million pounds each month. Last year, for the same months, production totaled 3.4 million pounds.

Number of milk cows has decreased from 1,200 cows in 2004 to 1,000 cows in October 2005, and 800 cows in both November and December of 2005.

Production per cow averaged 1,050 pounds in October, 1,010 pounds in November and 1,030 pounds in December. In 2004, the average production per cow was 940 pounds in October, 950 pounds in November and 1,030 pounds in December.

Accumulated milk production of 13.5 million pounds during the 12 months of 2005 was down from the 14.6 million pounds during the same period in 2004.

Milk production in the **23 Major States** during December totaled 13.6 billion pounds, up 4.2 percent from December 2004. November revised production, at 13.0 billion pounds, was up 4.6 percent from November 2004. The November revision represented a decrease of 1 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,665 pounds for December, 55 pounds above December 2004.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.16 million head, 67,000 head more than December 2004, and 4,000 head more than November 2005.

ALASKA POTATO STOCKS

All potatoes in storage in **ALASKA** as of January 1, 2006 totaled 118,000 cwt. This was 71 percent of the 2005 crop and compares with 126,000 cwt or 71 percent on hand during the same period last year. The 2003 level for the January 1 stocks was 90,000 cwt. The five year average stocks on hand for January 1 is 116,800 cwt.

Disappearance since December 1 was 11,000 cwt, compared with 11,000 cwt last year, and the five year average of 14,300 cwt. Disappearance of potatoes from the start of the harvest to January 1 totaled 48,000 cwt; comparable disappearance for a year earlier was 51,000 cwt. The five year average is 54,800 cwt. The disappearance since October 1 reflects sales, shrinkage and waste, as well as losses caused after harvest by late blight and frost damage. In 2005 late blight was identified in fields in the Mat-Su Valley. Losses in the field due to late blight ranged from severe to mild. Losses post-harvest are included in the disappearance. In 2004 there was a small loss of potatoes due to frost damage, while in 2003 there was significant loss due to frost damage that is reflected in the disappearance.

The **13 MAJOR POTATO STATES** held 219 million cwt of potatoes in storage January 1, 2006, down 7 percent from last year and 6 percent below January 1, 2004, for comparable States. Potatoes in storage account for 59 percent of the 2005 fall storage States' production, unchanged from last year.

Disappearance of 154 million cwt of potatoes is down 7 percent from last year for comparable States. Shrink and loss, at 16.2 million cwt so far this season, is down 14 percent from last year for comparable States.

Processors in the 9 major States have used 81.7 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 5 percent from a year ago and 7 percent below two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 16.0 million cwt of the total processing, down 14 percent from last year and 13 percent below the same date in 2004.

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| <p>HIGHLIGHTS</p> <p>POTATO STOCKS ON JANUARY 1, 2006 TOTALED 118,000 CWT</p> <p>DECEMBER MILK PRODUCTION DOWN 33 PERCENT FROM THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR</p> | <p>SPRING CALENDAR</p> <p>Alaska Greenhouse & Nursery Conference February 14 & 15, 2006</p> <p>Growing & Selling Christmas Trees in Alaska February 13, 2006 Alyeska Prince Resort Girdwood, AK Contact Julie Riley Cooperative Extension Service 907-786-6300</p> <p>Delta Farm Forum Saturday, March 4th, 2006 For more information Call Phil Kaspari Cooperative Extension Service 907-895-4215</p> | <p>Internet Access to ALASKA reports at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ak</p> <p>Internet Access to all NASS Reports at: http://www.usda.gov/nass/</p> <p>SUZAN BENZ Agricultural Statistician Phone: 1-800-478-6079 (907) 745-4272</p> |
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HOGS & PIGS TOTAL INVENTORY **DECEMBER 1, 2003 - DECEMBER 1, 2005**

Inventory of Alaskan Hogs & Pigs on December 1, 2005 was 1,600 head, down 100 head from last year. This was a 6% decrease from December 1, 2004.

Breeding inventory at 300 head was unchanged from December 1, 2004. Market Hog inventory at 1,300 was down 7% from 2004.

ALASKA HOGS & PIGS

| | Hog & Pig Inventory | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| December 1 | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
| Breeding | 300 | 300 | 400 |
| Market | 1,300 | 1,400 | 1,100 |
| Total | 1,600 | 1,700 | 1,500 |